

United States Department of Agriculture

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

4700 River Road Riverdale, MD 20737

Public Hearing on APHIS's Proposed Revision of its Fruits and Vegetables Regulations

Miami, Florida

May 26, 2006

9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Registration begins 30 minutes prior to scheduled start

Hilton Miami Airport Hotel 5101 Blue Lagoon Drive Miami, Florida

Representatives of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service will preside at the public hearing, and will provide a short overview of the rule. Any interested person may appear and be heard in person, by attorney, or by other representative. Written statements may be submitted and will be made part of the hearing record. A transcript of this public hearing and others related to the proposed rule will be placed in the rulemaking record and will be available for public inspection, including on the internet at www.aphis.usda.gov and regulations.gov.

The purpose of the hearings is to give interested persons an opportunity for presentation of data, views and arguments. Questions about the content of the proposed rule may be part of the commenters' oral presentations. However, neither the presiding officer nor any other representative of APHIS will respond to comments at the hearing, except to clarify or explain provisions of the proposed rule.

The presiding officer may limit the time for each presentation so that all interested persons appearing at each hearing have an opportunity to participate. Each hearing may be terminated at any time if all persons desiring to speak and that are present in the hearing room have been heard.

Registration for the hearings may be accomplished by registering with the presiding officer 30 minutes prior to the scheduled start of each hearing. Persons who wish to speak at a hearing will be asked to sign in with their name and organization to establish a record for the hearing. We request that anyone who reads a statement provide two copies to the presiding officer at the hearing.

Persons wishing to speak at one or more of the public hearings may register in advance by phone or e-mail. Persons wishing to register by phone should call the Regulatory Analysis and Development voice mail at (301) 734-8138. Callers must leave a message clearly stating:

- 1. The location of the hearing the registrant wishes to speak at,
- 2. The registrant's name and organization

Persons wishing to register by e-mail must send an e-mail with the same information described above to <u>ppq.public.hearings@aphis.usda.gov</u>. Please write the location of the hearing you wish to attend in the subject line. Advance registration for the hearings must be received by 3 p.m. on the day prior to the hearing you wish to attend.

Additional information on the proposed rule and public hearings can be found on the internet at http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppq/Q56.

Directions to Hearing Site

Hilton Miami Airport Hotel (305) 262-1000

• The hotel offers a complimentary shuttle to and from Miami International Airport which runs every 15 minutes on the hour from 5 am to 1 am.

From South Miami/Homestead (South)

U.S. 1 North to S.R. 826 North (Palmetto Expressway). Exit on S.R. 836 East (Dolphin Expressway) to the 57th Ave. (Red Road) exit. At the first traffic light, make a left, east at Blue Lagoon Drive and continue to the end of the road.

From North Miami/Eastern Broward (Northeast)

I-95 South to S.R. 836 West (Dolphin Expressway). On S.R. 836 West exit at 57th Ave. (Red Road). At the second traffic light, make a left hand turn, east at Blue Lagoon Drive and continue to the end of the road.

From Miami Lakes/Hialeah/Western Broward (Northwest)

S.R. 826 (Palmetto Expressway) South to S.R. 836 (Dolphin Expressway) East. Exit on S.R. 836 East (Dolphin Expressway) to the 57th Ave. (Red Road) exit. At the first traffic light, make a left hand turn, east at Blue Lagoon Drive and continue to the end of the road.

From Miami Beach (East)

I-395 (MacArthur Causeway) to S.R> 836 (Dolphin Expressway) West. Exit on S.R. 836 West (Dolphin Expressway) to the 57th Ave. (Red Road) exit. At the second traffic light, make a left hand turn, east at Blue Lagoon Drive and continue to the end of the road.